

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LONDON 13490 01 OF 02 021611Z

53

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-02

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 L-03 H-02 PA-02

PRS-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15

XMB-04 OPIC-06 LAB-04 SIL-01 EURE-00 PM-04 DODE-00

/115 W

----- 058334

P R 021557Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4301

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 13490

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, UK

SUBJECT: TUC CONGRESS EXPECTED TO GIVE SUBSTANTIAL SUP-
PORT TO GOVERNMENT'S ANTI-INFLATION POLICY

BEGIN SUMMARY - THE TUC CONGRESS WHICH IS MEETING IN
BLACKPOOL THIS WEEK (SEPT. 1-5) IS EXPECTED TO ENDORSE
THE GOVERNMENT'S ANTI-INFLATION POLICY TOMORROW BY A
SUBSTANTIAL MAJORITY DESPITE TWO SEPARATE BUT RELATED
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LONDON 13490 01 OF 02 021611Z

INITIATIVES IN OPPOSITION TO IT. THE CONGRESS, HOWEVER,

IS NOT SIMPLY LIKELY TO "RUBBER-STAMP" THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY IN ALL DETAILS, AND SOME OF ITS LEADERS ARE MAKING IT CLEAR THAT MOUNTING UNEMPLOYMENT COULD JEOPARDIZE THE UPDATED SOCIAL CONTRACT WHICH EMERGED FROM THE DELIBERATIONS THIS WEEKEND. END SUMMARY.

1. A RESOLUTION MOVED BY JACK JONES' POWERFUL TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION CALLS FOR ACCEPTANCE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S SIX POUND PER WEEK FLAT RATE WAGE LIMIT (HOWEVER -- AND THIS COULD CAUSE SOME DIFFICULTY LATER ON -- IT ALSO STATES "NO WORKER SHOULD RECEIVE LESS THAN SIX POUNDS," WHILE THE GOVERNMENT LOOKS AT THIS FIGURE SIMPLY AS A MAXIMUM.) JONES HAD WARNED IN AN EVE OF CONGRESS SPEECH THAT IF THE GOVERNMENT PAY POLICY WAS FLOUTED AND THERE WAS RISING UNEMPLOYMENT, A NEW GENERAL ELECTION, WHICH THE LABOR PARTY COULD LIKELY LOSE, MIGHT TAKE PLACE BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR AND THUS BE AN EXTREMELY PROFOUND SETBACK TO THE BRITISH TRADE UNION MOVEMENT. IN HER CONGRESS ADDRESS, YESTERDAY, TUC PRESIDENT MARY PATTERSON ECHOED THE SAME THEME.

2. ONE RESOLUTION SEEKING REJECTION OF THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY IS BEING TABLED BY A UNIT OF BRITAIN'S SECOND LARGEST UNION THE ENGINEERS (AUEW), LED BY HUGH SCANLON. ANOTHER HAS BEEN INTRODUCED BY CLIVE JENKINS' TECHNICAL AND MANGERIAL UNION (ASTMS). WHILE THESE RESOLUTIONS ARE ALMOST CERTAIN TO FAIL ULTIMATELY, THEY DO REFLECT THE DEEP CONCERN OF A NUMBER OF SPECIFIC UNION GROUPS -- LARGELY FROM HIGHLY SKILLED WORKERS LIKE THE ENGINEERS TO LOW PAID FARM WORKERS -- WHO BELIEVE THEMSELVES ESPECIALLY DISADVANTAGED BY THE GOVERNMENT'S NEW WAGE RESTRAINT POLICY. (THE AUTHORS OF THE RESOLUTIONS ARE HOPING THAT THEIR SEPARATE BUT PARALLEL STRATEGY CAN REDUCE EVENTUAL TUC SUPPORT FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO SOMETHING SHORT OF "OVERWHELMING" -- AND THIS THEY MIGHT WELL SUCCEED IN DOING.

3. BUT THE "JONES" RESOLUTION REFLECTS THE DEEP CONCERN OF THE TUC OVER JOBS AND PRICES AND CALLS FOR A SERIES OF MEASURES TO BRING UNEMPLOYMENT DOWN INCLUDING INCREA-

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 LONDON 13490 01 OF 02 021611Z

SED PUBLIC EXPENDITURE, PARTICULARLY IN HOUSING, EMPLOY-

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LONDON 13490 02 OF 02 021612Z

53

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-02

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 L-03 H-02 PA-02

PRS-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15

XMB-04 OPIC-06 LAB-04 SIL-01 EURE-00 PM-04 DODE-00

/115 W

----- 058356

P R 021557Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4302

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 LONDON 13490

MENT SUBSIDIES, SELECTIVE IMPORT CONTROLS AND OTHER MEASURES. A KEY TUC LEADER, LORD ALLEN, PERHAPS RIGHTLY GAUGED THE DEEP ANXIETY OF THE ASSEMBLED DELEGATES DESPITE THE CALM MOOD WHICH PREVAILS IN THE HALL AND THE SUNNY ENVIRONMENT OF THE SEASIDE RESORT OUTSIDE. HE SAID THE "SPECTOR OF UNEMPLOYMENT (AROUND ONE MILLION) LOOMS DEPRESSINGLY LARGE OVER WORKING PEOPLE IN THIS UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LONDON 13490 02 OF 02 021612Z

COUNTRY AND CONSEQUENTLY OVER THE CONGRESS."

4. HOWEVER, THIS YEAR'S TUC CONGRESS DOES NOT HAVE TO CONTEND WITH OTHER HIGHLY EMOTIONAL AND MAJOR DIVISIVE ISSUES SUCH AS THE EC MEMBERSHIP QUESTION. NOR IS A NEW ELECTION IMMINENT. (ONLY ONE GOVERNMENT MINISTER, EDUCATION SECRETARY FRED MULLEY, IS TO ADDRESS THE CONFERENCE, AND HE WILL DO THAT IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE LABOR PARTY.) TO BE SURE, THERE IS MUCH TO DO, AND THE FIRST DAY'S DELIBERATIONS AS WELL AS THE AGENDA FOR THE FOLLOWING DAYS REFLECT THE WIDE VARIETY OF CONCERNS BEFORE THE BRITISH TRADE UNION MOVEMENT. THESE RANGE FROM EQUAL PAY AND MALE DOMINATION OF UNIONS, TRAINING FOR YOUTH, OLD AGE PENSIONS, AND THE MATTER OF REVITALIZING THE STRUCTURE OF THE TUC TO INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, AMONG OTHER MATTERS. MORE THAN 1,000 DELEGATES, REPRESENTING 10.3 MILLION MEMBERS FROM 111 AFFILIATED UNIONS ARE EXAMINING THESE MATTERS. THEY ARE PRESIDED OVER, RATHER FITTINGLY FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMENS YEAR, BY MARY PATTERSON WHO IS ALSO THE TUC'S PRESIDENT FOR THIS YEAR.

5. AS A WHOLE, HOWEVER, THE CENTRAL AND VITAL QUESTION IS THE BRITISH ECONOMY, ALTHOUGH THERE MAY WELL BE OCCASIONAL FLURRIES OF EXCITEMENT AS A RESULT OF OTHER ISSUES. THERE ARE ALSO NEW MEMBERS TO BE ELECTED LATER TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL INCLUDING VERY LIKELY AN AUEW "MAOIST", REG BIRCH, AND THE CONSEQUENT STEPPING DOWN OF A TUC MODERATE JOHN BOYD, FROM THE SAME UNION. ANOTHER TUC MODERATE, RAY GRANTHAM, ONE OF THE FEW REALLY MILITANT PRO-EC LEADERS DURING THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN, ALSO MAY LOSE HIS SEAT.

RICHARDSON

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT BUDGET, ANTIINFLATIONARY PROGRAMS, ECONOMIC CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LONDON13490
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750302-0698
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750993/aaaaddy.tel
Line Count: 204
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 MAR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 MAR 2003 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <12 JAN 2004 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TUC CONGRESS EXPECTED TO GIVE SUBSTANTIAL SUP- PORT TO GOVERNMENT'S ANTI-INFLATION POLICY
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, UK
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006